

and to populations of internally displaced persons who remain confined in camps, which should be administered by civilian authorities. These people should be allowed to leave the camps as soon as possible so they can start to rebuild their lives.

As soon as possible, the government needs to begin implementing policies for the devolution of power to provincial councils in the north and east as provided for in Sri Lanka's Constitution. This and other steps are needed to demonstrate that all Sri Lankans can live without fear and participate freely in the political process. It must address the longstanding, legitimate grievances of the Tamil population so they can finally enjoy the equal rights and opportunities to which they, like other Sri Lankan citizens, are entitled.

There is also the issue of accountability for violations of the laws of war. The LTTE had a long history of flagrant violations of human rights, including kidnappings, extrajudicial killings, disappearances, and deliberately targeting civilians. The Sri Lankan military engaged in similar crimes. Although the Sri Lankan Government prevented access for journalists to the war zone in order to avoid scrutiny of the military's conduct, video footage was smuggled out. And as the smoke has lifted from the battlefield there are reports that thousands of Tamil civilians who were trapped in the so-called safe zone perished in the last months of the war. There is abundant evidence that they were deliberately targeted with relentless shelling and aerial bombardments, despite repeated appeals by the international community that they be spared. There are also growing fears of retaliatory attacks against those who criticized such tactics.

The recent decision of the United Nations Human Rights Council rejecting calls, including by Navi Pillay, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, for an international investigation of these violations is unfortunate but not surprising. Several of the Council's members routinely arbitrarily imprison and torture political opponents in their own countries. The Sri Lankan Government, which seeks international aid to rebuild, insists that what occurred there is an "internal" matter and that for outsiders to call for an independent investigation and justice for the victims is an "infringement of sovereignty." To the contrary, the denial of basic rights and freedoms is a legitimate concern of people everywhere, whenever it occurs.

It is now incumbent on the Sri Lankan authorities to demonstrate that the rule of law is respected, that sweeping security measures that have been used to silence journalists, doctors, lawyers and other citizens who have criticized government policies are revised or repealed, that the government takes seriously its duty to defend the rights of all Sri Lankans irrespective of religious affiliation or eth-

nicity, and that those responsible for crimes against humanity or other violations of human rights are held accountable.

Thankfully, a long, bloody chapter of Sri Lanka's history has ended. But it is the next chapter that will determine whether justice and lasting peace can be achieved. If the Sri Lankan Government seizes this opportunity to unite the Sri Lankan people in support of an inclusive effort to address the causes of the conflict, the United States will be a strong partner in that effort.

HONORING AMERICA'S WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, this week, we pay tribute to those who fought for freedom's cause during World War II. Two monumental efforts occurred that resulted in turning the war efforts in favor of the Allied Forces. These events are D-day and the Battle of Midway. Each was a demonstration of our nation's commitment to freedom, a blow against tyranny, and the tremendous sacrifice everyday Americans are willing to make for peace and security.

This Saturday marks the 65th anniversary of D-day, the day the tide began to turn against totalitarianism in World War II. On that day, Allied troops stormed a Normandy beachhead to claim a foothold on the edge of Nazi-occupied Europe. More than 1,400 Americans sacrificed their lives during the invasion, including 130 Floridians.

As the largest land, air, and sea invasion in history, D-day brought together Allied forces and unprecedented military resources, including more than 150,000 servicemen, 13,000 aircraft, and 5,000 ships. By the day's end, more than 9,000 Allied warriors had sacrificed life and limb so that others could begin the perilous journey into Europe to defeat the forces commanded by Adolf Hitler.

D-day tested the courage and character of every American involved in the invasion. Like those who came before them, the soldiers who fought that day fought courageously for a freedom the men and women of our military still fight to defend.

Coinciding with the anniversary D-day is the 67th anniversary of the Battle of Midway, another turning point in the war. The battle claimed the lives of more than 300 Americans and helped to slow Japan's advance across the Pacific. America's forces executed the mission with tremendous skill and helped deliver one of the war's most decisive and crucial victories.

On these anniversaries, let us remember and recognize the courage of those who sacrificed their lives to restore hope through the liberation of those in occupied territories. Let us honor and thank those veterans that continue to share their unique stories from these extraordinary battles. May God bless the men and women of the U.S. military, and continue to bless our great Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

• Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, before I became a member of this body, I was privileged to serve as the president of University of Tennessee and as Secretary of Education under President George H.W. Bush. Therefore, I know how important it is for our nonprofits to make investments in our system of higher education. That is why I am pleased to report that Meharry Medical College in Nashville is poised to receive the single largest endowment gift in the college's 130-year history.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest philanthropic organization in America devoted exclusively to health care, has selected Meharry to receive a multimillion-dollar endowment and other funding to establish the Robert Wood Johnson Center for Health Policy at Meharry Medical College to produce our country's next generation of health care policy experts. Meharry will be partnering with Vanderbilt University College of Arts and Science on this project.

This gift is especially timely as the Nation grapples with economic challenges and millions of uninsured citizens amid growing bipartisan support for reforming the U.S. health care system. The new center aims to serve as a think tank for the pressing health care issues of the day; to increase the diversity of health policy scholars with doctors who are formally trained in sociology and economics; and to provide students and faculty with new curricula, research and academic offerings in health policy. The center seeks to reshape the future of America's health policies by creating a more inclusive pool of experts trained in health policy and allied disciplines.

Meharry Medical College is the Nation's largest private, independent, historically Black academic health center. It produces over 20 percent of the Nation's African-American physicians and 33 percent of the Nation's African-American dentists. These health professionals take care of those most in need: the underserved in our rural and urban communities across the country.

I know Meharry is pleased to be selected to receive this gift and produce scholars who will make a real impact on our health policy at this critical time. Though their graduates may serve the country, we Tennesseans are especially proud of Meharry and its many contributions to our State and the Nation.●

COMMENDING KATHLEEN L. "KATIE" WOLF

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today I wish to honor my fellow Hoosier, Kathleen L. "Katie" Wolf. Today we recognize the many accomplishments of Katie, a distinguished public servant and a model citizen who over the years

has contributed much to her community in Monticello and to the Hoosier State.

A native of Princeton Township, IN, Katie Wolf has long been a pillar of her community. In 1967, she served as the secretary on the founding board of the White County United Fund, now known as the United Way of White County.

In 1968, Katie ran and was elected to the position of clerk of the White County Circuit Court, a role she filled for over a decade before being nominated to the Judiciary Committee for the Democratic National Committee. In 1984, Katie became the first woman to run for and win a position in her district in the Indiana House of Representatives, and during her first term she was elected Outstanding Freshman Legislator. In 1986, Katie was appointed senator for District Seven in the Indiana State Senate.

Throughout her career, Katie has been the recipient of numerous awards and designations, a testament to her stature as a model Hoosier and as a leader in public life in Indiana. She has received the Director's Award from the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the Director's Award from the Purdue University Cooperative Extension, and Legislator of the Year from the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association. Former Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon presented Katie with the Sagamore of the Wabash Award, which is the highest honor that the Governor of Indiana can bestow. It is an award reserved for those who have made outstanding contributions to the Hoosier State. Last month, she received an honorary doctor of laws from Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer.

Next week, Katie will receive an award from the local chapter of Women Giving Together, an organization committed to strengthening the communities of White County. I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize her for the remarkable service she has rendered on behalf of the people of Indiana and congratulate her on receiving another well-deserved distinction.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF STOCKHOLM, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the community of Stockholm on reaching its 125th year. The people who make up this community are proud of their heritage and will be celebrating both their resilient history and their promising future June 13 to 14, 2009.

This strong rural community in northeast South Dakota was primarily founded by Scandinavian homesteaders who named the town after Stockholm, Sweden. Also in this area was Brown Earth, an Indian settlement of 52 families. These communities were closely intertwined and shared churches and a post office. In 1896, the town joined together to construct a creamery, financed at \$25 a share.

In celebration of reaching this historic milestone, the town has painted 24 Dala Hasten, traditional Swedish wooden horses. There will also be a parade, races, and musical events to commemorate Stockholm's notable occasion.

The welcoming spirit of Stockholm's citizens helped sculpt this town's unique history, and I am confident that this strength of character will help them continue through the coming years. I am proud to represent this community, and I commend this town on reaching this historic anniversary.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF MOUND CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the founding of Mound City, SD. This rural community is the seat of Campbell County in northern South Dakota. This town was built on hard work and a spirit of community 125 years ago, and those same values sustain it today.

Edward C. and his father E.H. McIntosh were the first settlers, arriving in the area on June 10, 1884. They called the town Mound City because of the small hills to the north. Soon after, an elegant hotel and post office were constructed. The first newspaper, the Mound City Journal, was started in 1886. Mound City also had a flour mill, built in 1893 by contributions by the town's citizens. After it burned down the first night of operations, the town rallied and raised enough money to again build the mill.

This perseverance and dedication illustrates what has gotten Mound City to this monumental anniversary, and I am proud to recognize them on their achievements. The citizens of this town are dedicated and hard working, demonstrating what a great State South Dakota is.●

COMMENDING ELMET TECHNOLOGIES

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, as we are all aware, the lengthy process of globalization has made it necessary for many American businesses to promote their goods in international markets. And despite the present economic recession, Maine businesses exported a record \$3 billion in goods last year. I wish to highlight Elmet Technologies, a shining company that has been a part of that historic figure and has excelled in growing its customer base by marketing to overseas firms.

Elmet Technologies was founded in Lewiston in 1929, at the beginning of the Great Depression. At that time, the company had 50 employees and 13,400 square feet of manufacturing space. The firm now employs over 230 people and occupies a 220,000-square-foot facility. Elmet makes top-quality, high-performance advanced materials and

specialized refractory metal products, such as wire, filaments, and rods. Its products have numerous applications for a variety of industries. For instance, the company's components and materials are used in electronic devices such as GPS units and digital music players and medical equipment like x-ray tubes.

Elmet supplies a wide range of customers, from IBM and Philips Lighting, to Veeco, which produces process equipment and metrology tools, and Varian, producers of medical equipment. These firms have turned to Elmet because of its high-quality products, attention to customer detail and specification, and its employees' stellar Maine work ethic. Additionally, what makes Elmet's production method so effective is that the company uses raw materials instead of base materials, allowing employees to easily customize products based on consumer specifications. The company has also earned two critical certifications for quality and environmental standards from the International Organization for Standardization, ISO.

Though an 80-year-old company, Elmet Technologies is relatively new to global trade. It began only recently promoting its products abroad and now has clients in places as far away as Europe, Israel, and China. Elmet's strategy is paying off and earning the company much-deserved recognition. Last Thursday, the Maine International Trade Center presented Elmet Technologies with its 2009 Exporter of the Year Award. The award demonstrates the determination and commitment of Elmet's leaders in forging new international marketplaces for its extensive variety of products that serve a wide range of high-tech and emerging industries—from electronics and lighting, to aircraft and automotive.

The Maine International Trade Center is Maine's small business link to the rest of the world. It is a public-private partnership between the State of Maine and its businesses. The center's goal is to increase international trade in Maine and in particular to assist Maine's businesses in exporting goods and services. Clearly it sees in Elmet Technologies the entrepreneurial spirit and innovation that make Maine's small businesses so unique and successful.

Elmet Technologies' president and CEO, Jack Jensen, has summed up his company's philosophy quite simply: "Listen. Create. Delight." Based on the company's record of success and customer satisfaction, this motto has served the company well in any language. I congratulate everyone at Elmet Technologies on their recent recognition and wish them new and exciting export opportunities in the years to come.●

130TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORTHING, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Worthing, SD. Founded in